



OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Office of the Chief Health and Medical Officer – Occupational Health
Monthly Newsletter September 2011

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◆ **EHR Update:** The third NASA Center has gone live on Medgate GX! The GRC Occupational Medicine Clinic (OM) and Industrial Hygiene (IH) staff received their Medgate GX training this month. The clinic staff was trained by Application Consultant Bill Walters on the Medical Module August 9, 10 and 11. The IH staff was trained by Application Consultant Monica Melkonian on August 10 and 11. The medical training was supported by Dr. Verba Moore, Dr. Azhar Rafiq, Helen Shoemaker, and Nancy Eckhardt; the IH training was supported by Bart Geyer. There was a total of 20 who attended the training sessions. The GRC OM Clinic (pictured) went live on Friday, August 12, after the Operational Readiness Review approval. The interface with the EasyOne spirometer was successful at GRC; the issues with the audiometric interface continue to be worked by Medgate. The OM Clinic staff was supported by Helen Shoemaker the week following their “go live”. The IH Module “go live” was on Friday, August 19. Both the GRC OM and IH staff are doing well working with the system.

◆ **2011 OH Meeting Presentations are Now Posted Online:** The available [presentations](#) from the recently completed 2011 NASA OH Meeting are now posted. At the website you will find presentation material from the PDCs, General, and Breakout Sessions. Many excellent presentations were given at the meeting and we are pleased to be able to make these presentations available to you.

◆ **Congratulations to ARC Health Unit on JCAHO Certification!** The ARC Health Unit was recertified by the [Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations](#) (JCAHO) in August. They received their initial certification from JCAHO in 2002. This is the second successful re-certification for them. Congratulations to everyone in the Health Unit for this impressive accomplishment!



Joint Commission
on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations

◆ **Family/Personal Preparedness:** When this newsletter was being written an earthquake had just occurred on the east coast affecting numerous NASA sites and Hurricane Irene was skirting the Florida coast near Kennedy Space Center but headed for NASA Langley. Certainly NASA OH programs play a critical role in disaster planning and response at all the Centers, but a major initiative has been placed on Family/Personal Preparedness for all NASA personnel. The [NASA Family/Personal Preparedness Program](#) is designed to provide awareness,

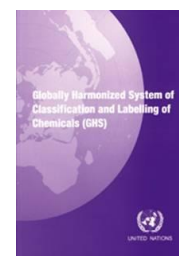


resources, and tools to the NASA Family (civil servants and contractors) to prepare for an emergency situation. The most important assets in the successful completion of NASA’s mission are our employees’ and their families. NASA is taking the steps to prepare our workforce, but it is your personal obligation to prepare yourself and your families for emergencies.

◆ **OSHA’s New Heat Stress App:** The [App](#) allows workers and supervisors to calculate the heat index for their worksite, and based on the heat index, displays a risk level to outdoor workers.



◆ **Are you Preparing for the Global Harmonized System (GHS)?** At the recently concluded [NASA OH Meeting](#) there was an informative presentation given on the topic of preparing for the Globally Harmonized System (GHS) which is being incorporated into OSHA’s Hazard Communication Standard. The final rule on the GHS is still delayed. OSHA says it looks like September will be the earliest the agency will send the rule to OMB for review. Centers are well advised to begin considering implications of this regulation change. After the rule is finalizing OCHMO is hoping to sponsor webinar sessions on complying with these new requirements.



◆ **Healthier You 2011:** Ms Carter Blakey from the [Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion](#), DHHS, will present information on Healthy People 2020 during the upcoming HPW ViTS. The fall fitness campaign will be a return of Walk to Wellness (WTW). WTW is established around a Mayo Clinic EmbodyHealth module. Enrollment is September 1-19 with active walking between September 20 and October 17. You will have until November 1 to complete any documentation. Those who have not already done so will need to register on the portal first then enroll in WTW by visiting the Media Window.



◆ **2011 Triennial Health Physics Meeting**

Presentations: Speaker presentations from the 3-day meeting held earlier this year at NASA Headquarters can be found online in the conference [archives](#) section of the NASA Occupational Health website.



◆ **September EH ViTS on Use of Isocyanates:** The [September 9 EH ViTS](#) will focus on exposure to [isocyanates](#) and associated health effects. An Industrial Hygienist and Occupational Physician with the Yale Occupational and Environmental Medicine Department will be speaking to us.



◆ **Upcoming OH ViTS & Webinars:**

- Health Promotion ViTS – September 6, 1:30-2:30 EDT
- EH ViTS – September 7, 11:00-12:00 EDT
- EAP ViTS – September 13, 11:00-12:30 EDT

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Send information, comments or questions to:

◆ E-mail – Bart.D.Geyer@nasa.gov ◆ Telephone – 321-867-3473

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